Claims Amendments

Please amend claims 6, 24, and 26, and cancel claims 1-4, 8, 10-23, and 27-29 as follows:

1-5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 9 wherein the hardware interrupt signal is a signal from a component of the spin-coating apparatus selected from the group consisting of a sensor, a controller, a pump, a dispenser, a turntable, and a timer.

7. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the hardware interrupt signal is sent from a supply system controller upon occurrence of a start of solution dispense or an end of solution dispense, or both.

8. (canceled)

9. (previously presented) A method for providing a photoresist coating onto a substrate, the method comprising:

spin-coating a photoresist solution onto the substrate wherein the spin-coating process is controlled by a method comprising:

controlling the process using serial process control sequentially executing a series of subroutines;

interrupting the serial process control with a hardware interrupt signal to execute a process command; and

applying a developer solution onto the spin-coated photoresist using a spin-coating apparatus wherein the spin-coating apparatus is controlled by a method comprising:

controlling the process using serial process control sequentially executing a series of subroutines; and

interrupting the serial process control with a hardware interrupt signal to execute a process command.

10-23. (canceled)

24. (currently amended) The method of claim [[22]] 31 wherein serial process control is interrupted using an interrupt signal which causes execution of an interrupt service routine.

25. (original) The method of claim 24 wherein the interrupt service routine starts multiple timers, each timer measures a different duration, and at the end of each duration the interrupt service routine sends an interrupt signal to the process control system which executes a process command.

26. (currently amended) The method of claim [[22]] 31 wherein the method avoids accumulation of timing variability in processing commands otherwise caused by serial timing methods.

27-30. (canceled)

31. (previously presented) A method for controlling a process of applying a developer solution onto a substrate using a spin-coating apparatus, the method comprising:

controlling the process using serial process control wherein the process is controlled by sequentially executing a series of subroutines; and

interrupting the serial process control with an interrupt signal to execute a process command, wherein the interrupt signal relates to a process event chosen from the group consisting of: a beginning of a dispenser movement into dispensing position; an end of a dispenser movement into dispensing position; a beginning of a solution dispense; an end of a solution dispense; a beginning of dispenser movement out of dispensing position; and an end of dispenser movement out of dispensing position.

32. (previously presented) A method for controlling a process of applying a developer solution onto a substrate using a spin-coating apparatus, the method comprising:

controlling the process using serial process control wherein the process is controlled by sequentially executing a series of subroutines; and

interrupting the serial process control with an interrupt signal to execute a process command, wherein the process command is chosen from the group consisting of: a start of dispenser movement; a start of dispense of a developer solution; an end of dispense of the developer solution; a change of turntable spin acceleration or deceleration.